

Please add new Claim 18:

Q3 Sub 1
--18. An elevator system comprising:
a hoistway having a hoistway door and a ceiling;
an elevator car located in the hoistway; and
a drive motor drivingly coupled to the elevator car, the drive motor being located
in a fixed position adjacent to one of a top and bottom portion of a hoistway door and
below the hoistway ceiling.--

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed February 7, 2000. Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10 and 13 were rejected and Claims 4-5, 9, 11-12 and 14-17 were withdrawn from consideration in the Office Action. After amendment, Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10 and 13 remain pending and reconsideration of the rejections of these claims is respectfully requested in view of the traversal that follows. In addition, new Claim 18 has been added by this Amendment. Consideration and allowance of Claim 18 is respectfully requested.

An election of species requirement was presented in the Office Action. A provisional election was made to prosecute the Invention of Species I, Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10 and 13 on January 31, 2000. This election is hereby affirmed.

Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 7 has been amended to overcome this rejection.

Claims 1-3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi.

Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection. Claim 1, as amended, includes having the drive motor located adjacent to the top or bottom portion of one of the hoistway doors and below the hoistway ceiling. Takahashi, on the other hand, has the

drive motor located such that it is neither adjacent to the nearest hoistway door and nor below the ceiling of the hoistway. The drive motor of Takahashi is located in a separate machineroom that is spaced from the nearest hoistway door and that is positioned above the ceiling of the hoistway. Therefore, Takahashi fails to disclose each and every element of the claimed invention and this rejection of Claims 1-3 and 6 is traversed.

Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi in view of Sugiyama.

Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection. According to the Office Action, Takahashi discloses all the elements of the claims except a movable panel protruding into the hallway. Claims 7 and 8, however, depend from Claim 1. As discussed above, Takahashi fails to disclose all the elements of Claim 1, as amended. Therefore, this reference, and the combination of Takahashi and Sugiyama, fails to disclose or suggest all the elements of Claims 7 and 8.

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi in view of Moore.

Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection. According to the Office Action, Takahashi discloses all the elements of the claims except the drive and controller being located with the motor in the housing. Claim 10, however, depends from Claim 1. As discussed above, Takahashi fails to disclose all the elements of Claim 1, as amended. Therefore, this reference, and the combination of Takahashi and Moore, fails to disclose or suggest all the elements of Claim 10.

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi in view of Aulanko et al. Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection. According to the Office Action, Takahashi discloses all the elements of the claims except at least two sheaves on the bottom of the car. Claim 13, however, depends from Claim 1. As discussed above, Takahashi fails to disclose all the elements of Claim 1, as amended. Therefore, this reference, and the combination of Takahashi and Aulanko et al., fails to disclose or suggest all the elements of Claim 10.

New Claim 18 has been added by this Amendment. This claim is directed to the same subject matter as Claim 1, but does not include the element of a counterweight

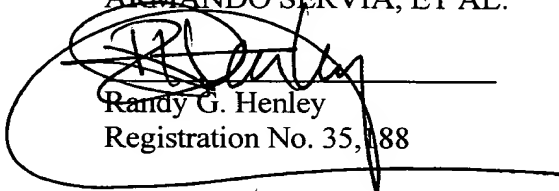
connected to the car. Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of new Claim 18.

Inasmuch as neither the structure nor function of Applicants' invention has been anticipated or made obvious, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 1-3, 6-8, 10 and 13 and consideration and allowance of Claim 18.

Please charge any fee for this statement to Deposit Account No. 15-0750, Order No. OT-4329.

Respectfully submitted,

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